What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc. View this email in your browser

Newsletter #159:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hello everyone! I hope you are enjoying your summer as much as one can during a pandemic! Summer is almost over if you can believe it and the auctions are going to start coming in full swing very soon. The fear of future lock-downs and less mobility certainly aren't going to help, but if the last few months are any indication, I think the auctions will continue to be successful. I'm pleased to see most auction houses assimilating to the current environment. I continue to tell my customers that if you really have interest in a coin then there is certainly a way to view it.

Davisson's E Auction 36 (26 August)

Davisson's has their 36th auction on August 26. The "anchor" of the sale is a collection from the late Freeman Craig Sr. who was in the air force and flew missions between North Africa and Italy. He was a regular at coin shows and had membership in his local coin club. His collection of hammered coins range from Cnut to Henry VIII. CNG recently had some nice electrotypes offered in their esale and Davisson's likewise offers 8 British Museum electrotypes. These have become extremely popular in the past year from what I can see. They aren't inexpensive but they certainly are a lot cheaper than the real coins! There is another selection of British tokens from the Mike Sussman collection specifically from Wales and Scotland. I'm looking forward to this auction and let me also take the opportunity to congratulate the Davisson family on the birth of their son (and grandson) Calvin! Davisson does not charge a buyer's fee for their auctions which is a plus in this time of increasing premiums to collectors.

CNG E Auction 475 (26 August)

CNG is offering over 300 coins from the Richard McAlee collection. For those unfamiliar with McAlee, he authored a book called The Coins of Roman Antioch. I don't believe any of these coins are plate coins in the book but there are a lot of nice pedigrees found

throughout. Check out lot 81, a denarius of Septimius Severus from the Emessa mint. The collector points out that this is likely one of the nicest preserved types of Severus from Emessa. I don't disagree! There are some interesting Paduan forgeries later on in the sale (716-725). Lot 735-741 are all lovely medals from the famed Karl Goetz. These come from the Tolliver Besson collection. Towards the end of the sale is a nice selection of British hammered coins.

DNW Auction T18 (27 August)

DNW has a delightful auction of 17th and 18th century British tokens. Since I am a fan of 18th century tokens this auction caught my eye. One of the collections consists of 395 lots from the late David Barry Bailey. A few highlights: lot 261, a beautifully toned token from 1797 from county Durham, Sunderland in the northern part of Britain. Lot 298 is another reddish hued and toned piece from Bow street in London with fantastic imagery of a lion and a tiger. Lot 305 has a man on a wooden leg who happens to be a famous ventriloquist from the time. Lot 331 is a token from Ludgate Hill and advertises the business of Matthew Young, a coin and medals dealer! Lot 467 and 468 were two tokens done by a 7 year old artist, John Gregory Hancock. The engraver even introduces himself on the reverse of each piece declaring "This is my work". There are many more interesting pieces in this sale. Please get in touch if you need help.

Upcoming European Auctions

Künker 339-341 (Fall Auctions) (28 Sept - 2 Oct)

Künker will hold their regularly scheduled Fall auctions at the end of September for 1 week. Due to my current close proximity to the Künker offices (about a 5 hour drive from here), I will go to Osnabrück to view the sale. There are more than 4,400 lots in the sale which covers everything from ancient coins, world and modern.

Here is an excerpt summary from their site on the sale:

"We are delighted to be able to offer you diversified auctions. Catalog 339 contains German and World coins including numerous special collections, for example the Günther Jansen Collection of coins of the Carolingians and Münster as well as a collection of pieces from Hesse. Auction 340 should be of huge interest to collectors and investors: an extensive series of gold coins from the 19th and the first half of the 20th century will be on offer, all of which in collectible quality including various great rarities of above average condition. We arranged pieces that can be seen more often on the market in multiple lots at affordable estimates – an ideal opportunity to invest in historical gold coins. We will close the auction week with catalogue 341 which is dedicated to coins from the ancient world, including with the Dr. W.R. collection, part 5 and the second part of the Samel Collection. From rare bronze coins to perfect aurei, collectors will be thrilled about the varied offer."

What I really like about the Künker set up right now is that they take some of the higher value pieces and do little videos showing them being turned and displayed for us (all with white gloves for our viewing pleasure!). A few that I really liked were:

Lot 5441: A stunning didrachm from Panormos. This coin has everything. A fantastic strike, cabinet toning and a pedigree to impress. It is from the Kunstfreund collection. It also says it was owned by Oskar Kokoschka which, if it is the famed painter, is even

more exciting (at least for me!). It has a price tag worthy of a Kunstfreund piece (40,000 estimate) but it is worth every euro.

Lot 5637: A nicely centered Republican aureus from the moneyer P. Clodius Turrinus. The coin was struck in 42 BC, so two years after the murder of Julius Caesar. The triumvirate of Mark Antony, Octavian (later Augustus) and Lepidus was active. It is hard to find a coin from this period that is perfectly struck but this one is very pleasant in hand. It is estimated at 7500 euros.

Lot 5781: A beautifully struck and lustrous aureus of Claudius and Agrippina. Both portraits are attractive and while the reverse is ever so slightly off center it is quite an impressive piece.It is estimated at 20,000 euros.

Lot 5791: A pedigree going back to the famed opera singer Enrico Caruso, sold in 1923 in a Canessa auction, this coin clearly has the features of a Boscoreale hoard coin. This coin not only is beautiful but it also boasts a pedigree worthy of the coin itself. The coin is estimated at 10,000 euros

Lot 6034: An extremely rare tetradrachm from Emessa from the short lived Uranius Antoninus. There are not many coins to be found from this Roman usurper. This coin comes with a pedigree back to a 1980 Frank Sternberg sale.

Likely one of the most outstanding coins in the auction is not even so old, it is **Lot 2368**, an awesome United States gold medal of honor for Alexander Macomb. It was awarded to Macomb in 1816 for his achievements at the Battle of Plattsburgh during the War of 1812. It is a phenomenal and rarely offered historical piece. It is accompanied by a letter from the U.S. Secretary of War, Alexander J. Dallas, informing Macomb of his honor. Here is a link to that coin:

https://www.kuenker.de/en/auktionen/stueck/270537#

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I will be viewing this auction in the next few weeks so please get in touch soon with lots you would like me to view.

NAC Fall Auction (6 October)

The Fall auction for NAC will be ready for viewing in another few weeks. I plan to visit their offices in London or alternatively in Zurich where I will view the entire auction. This should be an exciting sale and I look forward to letting everyone know more about it in the coming weeks.

Leu Numismatik Auction 6 and 7 (23-25 October)

As mentioned in earlier newsletters there are 300 high quality, pedigreed coins in this sale. While the catalogs are not yet out I have personally viewed and photographed all the coins. I am not making the photographs available to everyone right now out of respect for my friends at Leu so they can get the catalogs out to all of us first. That said, the coins have been viewed by me and I am ready to start discussing this auction with customers as it draws nearer. There will be another catalog, auction 7, which I have not viewed yet (it is not finalized). I plan to view that sale as well if time permits.

Coin of the Week

KINGS of MACEDON. Philip V. 221-179 BC. Pella, c. 184-179 BC
AR Didrachm, 8.40g (24mm, 12h). Diademed and bearded head of king / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Club to right with name of king above and below. In field, three monograms

Pedigree: From the duplicates of the British Museum, London and from the R.C. Lockett and Dr. Hotz Collection. Ex Ratto, 26 April 1909, lot 1976. Ex Naville & Cie 5 (Luzern, 1923), lot 1469. Ex Glendining & Co., London - Lockett Coll. VI/2, 12 Feb 1958, lot 1398. Ex Münzen und Medaillen AG, Basel 88 (1999), lot 154.

Price: $7,500

References: Mamroth, Philipp (this example mentioned). SNG Locket 1530 (this coin)

Grade: An impeccable pedigree and owned by the prolific collector Richard Cyril Lockett. Pretty cabinet toning with minor overall wear. A delightful piece. EF

gk1203

Buy Coin

Philip V had the distinction of being the last real Greek king to wage a major battle before complete domination by Rome. With Rome busy fighting Carthage, Philip V gathered the troops and attempted to gain territory in the Aegean with only Rhodes and Pergamum remaining hostile. Unfortunately the great naval battle between the powers resulted in a loss by Philip.

This battle did not ultimately decide the fate of Macedon. Philip continued his course and attempted to overpower the emerging Roman armies. He eventually signed a peace

treaty with Rome but his enemies at Pergamum continued to create tensions and suspicion between Rome and Macedon. Infighting within the family between Philip's two sons resulted in one son being executed by his father. Philip died only a year later and was replaced by his elder son Perseus who ruled as the last king of Macedon.

Philip V was routinely compared to Alexander the Great. He was evidently a very attractive young man and commanded the attention that Alexander had some 100 years earlier.

This coin has an illustrious pedigree going back to 1909. It was part of the Lockett collection and was a duplicate auctioned off by the British Museum. This practice of trading duplicates was common in the early 1900's and continued well into the 1970's.

https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/gk1203?rq=gk1203

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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